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THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—"(a) The Government do not propose to take up the resettlement work in the South Arcot district pending a decision regarding the general resettlement policy of the Government which is under examination.

"(b) Settlement operations are now in progress in some of the estate areas taken over under the Madras Estates (Abolition and Conversion into Ryotwari) Act, 1948, in the districts of Krishna, Nellore, Chingleput, Chittoor and Ramanathapuram."

Collection of market rates for poramboke lands.

* 470 Q.—SRI B. RAMAKRISHNA REDDI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state whether the Government have passed orders that market rate should be collected from those ryots who are in possession of poramboke lands?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU NAICKER :—"The Government have ordered that all lands which would have normally been sold in public auction or assigned on payment of market value, should hereafter be assigned on payment of market value or sold in public auction whichever is advantageous to the Government. Under the above orders, such of the poramboke lands which are valuable would be sold in auction or assigned on payment of market value."

Engineers working in Food Production Schemes.

* 471 Q.—

MR. SPEAKER :—"The hon. Member, Sri K. T. Kosalram, is not in his place, the answer will be printed in the proceedings."

SRI K. T. KOSALRAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) the number of executive engineers and assistant engineers, districtwar, who were working in Food Production Schemes in 1950–51; and

(b) how many are working now?

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—"(a) & (b) A statement[a] is placed on the table of the House."

Retrenchment in the Civil Supplies Department.

* 472 Q.—SRI T. NAGI REDDI : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Civil Supplies Department staff as a whole or a major portion thereof is sought to be disbanded;

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on page 792 infra.

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(b) whether the Government are making any provision for a contingency when decontrol orders are likely to be reversed; and

(c) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, (i) the number of officers, (ii) the number of clerks and peons and (iii) the number of chowkidars, who will be thrown out of Government service?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (a) Only a part of the Civil Supplies staff comprising of 4,452 posts, was retrenched up to 15th October 1952 in the Civil Supplies Department as a result of decontrol. It is not possible now to state, what quantum of staff will be retrenched hereafter, as this will depend on the food position in the State and the need for the continuance of fair price shops, etc.

" (b) Such a contingency is not anticipated at present. Apart from this, only a part of the Civil Supplies staff has been retrenched and not the entire staff. The strength of the Civil Supplies staff can therefore be varied according to the needs of the situation from time to time.

" (c) The information regarding the number of officers, clerks, peons, etc., already retrenched after the decontrol policy was announced, has already been furnished in reply to another question answered on the floor of this House. The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the statement placed on the table of the House with reference to Starred Question No. 213 answered on 2nd December 1952. As already stated, it is not possible now to say whether any more persons and if so how many in each category of staff will be thrown out in the future."

Representations from the agricultural labourers of Gannavaram taluk for assignment of lands.

* 473 *Q.*—SRI G. RAMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government have received any application from the agricultural labourers of Ogirala of Gannavaram taluk, Krishna district, for the assignment of R.S. No. 1 of the village;

(b) if so, when it was received and what action has been taken by the Government;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Collector of Krishna district objected and threatened the agricultural labourers not to encroach upon the land to cultivate it;

(d) whether it is a fact that the agricultural labourers of the village levelled the field, arranged the bunds and furrowed the lands for cultivation and if so, when it was done; and

(e) whether the Collector took action against the landlords who encroached upon the above land after the agricultural labourers had left?